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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SECURITY INFORMATION  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Werk fuer Fernmeldewesen HF (OSW)  
Material Shortages and Possible  
Solutions

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ACQUIRED

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At a meeting which took place [ ] the problem of supplying the East German telecommunications industry's needs was taken up. Specifically, representatives of the Werk fuer Fernmeldewesen HF, Berlin-Oberschoene-weide stated that unless needed raw materials were forthcoming the plant would be completely unable to fulfill its production quota. At the time, the January 1953 plan had been fulfilled 72 percent, the February 91%, and the outlook for March was dim. In some cases, only one third of the necessary raw material was being delivered. An added difficulty at HF is that contracts have only been concluded for 70 percent of the total 1953 production. With these two major problems facing it, the plant management stated that it might soon be forced to cut the labor force. The HF representatives posed the following questions: Would the 1953 plan be reduced in view of the critical supply and contract situation, and what possibilities existed to fire unnecessary workers in order to avoid overdrawing salary funds? The following specific measures were recommended to alleviate the supply shortage:

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- a. That State Secretary Dr. Schroeder of the Ministry for Lost and Telecommunications put increased pressure on the East German factories such as Auerhammer, Hettstedt, Thale, etc., to use all current potentialities to deliver necessary materials to HF and to insure that such materials meet the quality specifications of the high vacuum tube industry.
- b. Increased availability of finances in order to import raw materials for the industry. It was further proposed that in the future DIA conclude contracts only when the signer agreed to deliver strategic materials, for example, for the production of metal-ceramic tubes for export to the USSR, in which case Russia would be obligated to deliver the necessary thorium, zirconium dioxide, and molybdenum plates.
- c. The recognition of the necessity for a special plant for the production of materials necessary to the high vacuum tube industry.

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if this suggestion

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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Had been favored two years previously, East Germany would not find itself in the critical supply situation which now existed, since it would be able to supply its own needs.

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